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LAKE STATES PULPWOOD PRODUCTION DIPS TO 4 MILLION CORDS IN 1971

ABSTRACT. – This 26th annual report shows that 1971 Lake States pulpwood production fell 6 percent. Wood inventory reductions were a major cause of the decline. Canada is losing importance as a pulpwood supplier to Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan.

OXFORD: 861.0(77):792. KEY WORDS: residue, receipts, roundwood, imports, Canada.

National wood-pulp production rose 3.6 percent in 1971, but Lake States pulpwood production fell over one-quarter million cords. Pulpwood inventories in 1971 were reduced nearly 100,000 cords in the Lake States – a major reason for the lower pulpwood output.

PRODUCTION

Compared with 1970, pulpwood production fell 10 percent in Michigan, 6 percent in Wisconsin, and 2 percent in Minnesota. Lake States loggers harvested 92 percent of the pulpwood; the remainder was mill residue, such as slabs, veneer cores, and chips from these materials (table 1).

In comparison with the amount of pulpwood cut annually during the last decade, the pine, aspen, and other hardwood harvests were relatively large in 1971, while the spruce and balsam fir harvests were relatively small. Hemlock harvesting was at the lowest point in 25 years.

During the last 6 years, annual pulpwood output in the three-State area has shown little trend, ranging from 3.6 to 4.3 million cords. Overall, no striking changes in pulpwood output occurred during 1971.

MILL RECEIPTS

Lake States mill receipts fell more than 300,000 cords from 1970. Wood procurement dropped 13 percent at Michigan mills, 8 percent in Wisconsin, and remained steady in Minnesota. Lake States producers furnished 91 percent of the volume, other States 6 percent, and Canada 3 percent (table 2).

Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming each shipped more than 20,000 cords to Lake States mills. Three-fourths of this western wood was softwood chips produced from primary plant residue.

Softwood roundwood imports from Canada continued to decline rapidly; less than 100,000 cords were imported in 1971, of which

Table 1.–Production and imports of pulpwood, Lake States, 1971

(In standard cords, unpeeled)

Species and destination	Production by States 1/				Imports			Total receipts
	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Michigan	Regional total	Other U.S. 2/	Canada	Total imports	
Aspen								
Minnesota	560,771	21,840	--	582,611	--	2,600	2,600	585,211
Wisconsin	45,775	714,156	249,314	1,009,245	--	1,395	1,395	1,010,640
Michigan	--	19	298,380	298,399	--	18	18	298,417
Exported 3/	709	--	--	709	--	--	--	--
Total	607,255	736,015	547,694	1,890,964	--	4,013	4,013	1,894,268
Balsam fir								
Minnesota	39,530	--	--	39,530	--	--	--	39,530
Wisconsin	540	53,979	33,739	88,258	--	--	--	88,258
Michigan	--	--	18,872	18,872	--	--	--	18,872
Exported 3/	7	--	--	7	--	--	--	--
Total	40,077	53,979	52,611	146,667	--	--	--	146,660
Birch								
Minnesota	34,300	--	--	34,300	--	100	100	34,400
Wisconsin	--	51,274	1,370	52,644	--	--	--	52,644
Michigan	--	34	21,531	21,565	--	32	32	21,597
Total	34,300	51,308	22,901	108,509	--	132	132	108,641
Hemlock								
Wisconsin	--	42,197	40,600	82,797	--	--	--	82,797
Michigan	--	--	1,869	1,869	--	--	--	1,869
Total	--	42,197	42,469	84,666	--	--	--	84,666
Pine								
Minnesota	144,995	--	--	144,995	--	9,350	9,350	154,345
Wisconsin	67,835	268,049	120,389	456,273	58,009	--	58,009	514,282
Michigan	--	--	114,956	114,956	--	--	--	114,956
Exported 3/	717	40	--	757	--	--	--	--
Total	213,547	268,089	235,345	716,981	58,009	9,350	67,359	783,583
Spruce								
Minnesota	116,369	--	--	116,369	--	--	--	116,369
Wisconsin	38,804	11,571	27,921	78,296	--	88,592	88,592	166,888
Michigan	364	--	16,817	17,181	--	278	278	17,459
Exported 3/	12,899	--	--	12,899	--	--	--	--
Total	168,436	11,571	44,738	224,745	--	88,870	88,870	300,716
Tamarack								
Minnesota	152	--	--	152	--	--	--	152
Wisconsin	32,300	2,881	2,245	37,426	--	--	--	37,426
Michigan	--	--	65	65	--	--	--	65
Total	32,452	2,881	2,310	37,643	--	--	--	37,643
Misc. hardwoods								
Minnesota	30,662	--	--	30,662	--	7,152	7,152	37,814
Wisconsin	--	263,984	31,093	295,077	--	--	--	295,077
Michigan	--	122	165,257	165,379	--	115	115	165,494
Exported 3/	--	4,937	--	4,937	--	--	--	--
Total	30,662	269,043	196,350	496,055	--	7,267	7,267	498,385
Total roundwood								
Minnesota	926,779	21,840	--	948,619	--	19,202	19,202	967,821
Wisconsin	185,254	1,408,091	506,671	2,100,016	58,009	89,987	147,996	2,248,012
Michigan	364	175	637,747	638,286	--	443	443	638,729
Exported 3/	14,332	4,977	--	19,309	--	--	--	--
Total	1,126,729	1,435,083	1,144,418	3,706,230	58,009	109,632	167,641	3,854,562
Residue, softwood								
Minnesota	17,497	--	--	17,497	--	14,348	14,348	31,845
Wisconsin	2,432	9,383	5,064	16,879	176,293	--	176,293	193,172
Michigan	--	--	559	559	--	--	--	559
Exported 3/	1,957	7,073	7,688	16,718	--	--	--	--
Total	21,886	16,456	13,311	51,653	176,293	14,348	190,641	225,576
Residue, hardwood								
Minnesota	47,263	13,046	--	60,309	987	2,155	3,142	63,451
Wisconsin	184	84,746	55,029	139,959	--	--	--	139,959
Michigan	--	--	50,167	50,167	10,930	--	10,930	61,097
Exported 3/	--	3,040	4,150	7,190	--	--	--	--
Total	47,447	100,832	109,346	257,625	11,917	2,155	14,072	264,507
All wood material								
Minnesota	991,539	34,886	--	1,026,425	987	35,705	36,692	1,063.117
Wisconsin	187,870	1,502,220	566,764	2,256,854	234,302	89,987	324,289	2,581,143
Michigan	364	175	688,473	689,012	10,930	443	11,373	700,385
Exported 3/	16,289	15,090	11,838	43,217	--	--	--	--
Total	1,196,062	1,552,371	1,267,075	4,015,508	246,219	126,135	372,354	4,344,645

1/ Vertical columns of figures under box heading "Production by States" present the amount of pulpwood cut in each State.

2/ Mostly western States.

3/ Pulpwood shipped to mills outside of region.

Table 2.–Geographic origin and destination of pulpwood received by Lake States mills, 1971

Species	Percent of pulpwood originating from:					Percent of pulpwood received by mills in:		
	Minn.	Wis.	Mich.	Canada	Other U.S.	Minn.	Wis.	Mich.
Aspen	32	39	29	*	--	31	53	16
Balsam fir	27	37	36	--	--	27	60	13
Birch	32	47	21	*	--	32	48	20
Hemlock	--	50	50	--	--	--	98	2
Pine	27	34	30	1	8	20	65	15
Spruce	52	4	15	29	--	39	55	6
Tamarack	86	8	6	--	--	*	99	*
Misc. hardwoods	6	53	39	2	--	8	59	33
Residues	14	22	23	3	38	19	68	13
All wood material	27	35	29	3	6	25	59	16
Previous year (1970)	26	35	30	4	5	23	60	17

*Less than 1/2 of 1 percent.

nine-tenths were spruce. Three times as much Canadian softwood was received in 1966 and seven times as much in 1951 and 1952. Since 1969, no balsam fir has been received from Canada, and pine is now a minor import. If recent trends in spruce shipments from Canada continue, less than 20,000 cords from Canada will be used in the Lake States by 1978.

Since 1969, small quantities of Canadian softwood residue have been used at Lake States mills, but data are insufficient to assess the future importance of this new wood import.

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